

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are now present in this application.

An Information Disclosure Statement was submitted in the above-identified application on July 8, 2003. Notification of receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement, as well as consideration of the documents cited therein, are respectfully requested.

A certified copy of the priority document for the above-identified application was submitted on July 8, 2003. Notification of receipt of the certified copy, as well as acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority, are respectfully requested.

From the March 9, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner has given the following election requirement:

Group I: Fig. 2;

Group II: Fig. 3;

Group III: Fig. 4;

Group IV: Fig. 5; and

Group V: Fig. 6.

However, there are only three embodiments in the present application. As discussed in the drawing description on pages 4 and 5 of the instant application, Figs. 1-4 show a first embodiment, Fig. 5 shows a second embodiment, and Fig. 6 shows a third embodiment. As such, the Examiner appears to be incorrect in alleging that there are five groups. Nonetheless, Applicants hereby

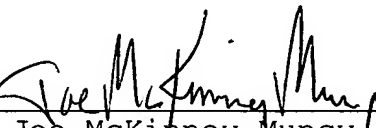
elect the first embodiment. At least claims 1-9 should read on this embodiment. It is also noted that independent claim 1 is generic and, if this claim is found to be allowable, this election of species requirement should be withdrawn.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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